

California State Senate

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DICK ACKERMAN
SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER
SENATOR, THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

May 15, 2007

Dr. Robert F. Sawyer
Chairman, California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Dr. Sawyer:

The State of California has an historic opportunity to implement change and stem the potential adverse impacts of global warming.

As part of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 implementation process, the Air Resources Board is currently considering opportunities for early action that will both demonstrate the seriousness of the State's commitment, and achieve real carbon reductions.

We applaud your efforts to date and encourage you to continue advancing measures that will yield cost effective, technologically feasible emissions reductions. However, we must caution that these rules must not impose undue economic burden on lower and fixed income citizens. In particular, we are concerned about one of the early action items that would propose to ban the retail sales of automotive air conditioning refrigerant.

To the extent that a possible retail sales ban on automotive refrigerant will disproportionately impact low-income communities who cannot afford professional service, we urge you to seriously consider possible regulatory alternatives that will yield similar reductions, but have less impact on the health and safety of our most vulnerable citizens.

Thank you for all of your efforts toward making California a leader in climate change policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dick Ackerman".

DICK ACKERMAN
Senator, 33rd District

DA/dcc